

University of the Incarnate Word®

Concentration in Asian Studies

Asian Studies Program

College of Humanities, Arts and Social Sciences

PROGRAM OVERVIEW

Through the study of the history, religions, governments, cultures, languages and contemporary issues of Asian countries, students are invited to view Asian countries, and subsequently the world, through a more informed lens.

The program supports the mission of globalization and seeks to create enlightened and informed citizens of the world. The world's shifting focus on the countries of Asia makes it imperative that students learn and understand the part of the world that contains more than 4 billion people unified by the term "Asia." The program of Asian Studies instills an appreciation for Asian history, culture, politics and economics, and builds awareness of the differences among the continent's regions. It also cultivates an understanding of UIW's commitment to diversity, and of the interconnectedness of Asian cultures with the world.

The program also helps students to better understand Asian cultures through special events, religious and cultural celebrations (Diwali, Asian New Year and Holi) and the Asian Culture Club. There are also a variety of study abroad opportunities, including select options in East Asia, where students can become immersed in the culture they are learning about. The Asian Studies program also has a strong presence during UIW academic initiatives, including International Education Week, which supports student growth in and out of the classroom, and across the world.

CONCENTRATION IN ASIAN STUDIES

The interdisciplinary concentration in Asian Studies in the Department of History enables students to expand their understanding of Asia through a range of courses in disciplines including Art History, Business, Cultural Studies, Economics, English, Government, History, International Affairs, Modern Languages, Music History, Philosophy and Religion. The Interdisciplinary Concentration in Asian Studies can be substituted for a minor in many degree programs.

We encourage students pursuing the concentration to take advantage of study abroad programs in Asia, both faculty-led programs connected to specific courses and programs for individual study during the summer, semester, or academic year. Courses taken during the study abroad in Asian countries can be used for credit for the concentration.

By cultivating deeper engagement with Asian Studies, the concentration encourages students to become lifelong learners, and to search for truth by looking beyond their immediate cultural sphere.

CONTACT

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The Interdisciplinary Concentration in Asian Studies requires 21 hours:

A. 9 hours

1. HIST 2332 Introduction to Asian Studies (3 credit hours)
2. Six (6) hours in an Asian language, taken at UIW or completed through a study abroad program with approval of the Asian Studies coordinator. Languages include: Arabic, Chinese, Hindi, Japanese, Korean or any other Asian language as approved by the Asian Studies coordinator. As below:

- ARAB 1311 Elementary Arabic I
- ARAB 1312 Elementary Arabic II
- CHIN 1311 Elementary Chinese I
- CHIN 1312 Elementary Chinese II
- HIND 1311 Elementary Hindi I
- HIND 1312 Elementary Hindi II
- JAPN 1311 Elementary Japanese I
- JAPN 1312 Elementary Japanese II
- KORE 1311 Elementary Korean I
- KORE 1312 Elementary Korean II

B. 12 hours, selected from the following:

- ENGL 2310 World Literature: Special Topics – Asia
- ENGL 3xxx or 4xxx [Focus on Asian Literature]
- HIST 4336 Topics in Chinese History
- HIST 4338 Topics in South Asian History
- HIST 4340 History of Afghanistan
- HIST 4343 Topics in Asian History
- HIST 4345 Global Refugees
- HIST 4360 Topics in Middle Eastern History
- MUSI 3351 Music in Asian Theater
- PHIL 3355 World Philosophy
- POLI 3351 Politics of Asia
- POLI 3352 Politics of the Middle East
- RELS 3345 World Religions
- ARAB 2311 Intermediate Arabic I
- ARAB 2312 Intermediate Arabic II
- CHIN 2311 Intermediate Chinese I
- CHIN 2312 Intermediate Chinese II
- HIND 2311 Intermediate Hindi I
- HIND 2312 Intermediate Hindi II
- JAPN 2311 Intermediate Japanese I
- JAPN 2312 Intermediate Japanese II
- KORE 2311 Intermediate Korean I
- KORE 2312 Intermediate Korean II

Additional courses with a focus on Asia may be taken as part of the concentration with the approval of the Asian Studies coordinator.